# The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

# **Subject Description Form**

Subject Code	APSS3S01						
Subject Title	Community Psychology						
Credit Value	3						
Level	3						
GUR Requirements Intended to Fulfill	This subject intends to fulfill the following requirement(s):    Healthy Lifestyle						
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	APSS 1A07 / 111 Introduction to Psychology OR APSS 298 Applied Psychology						
Assessment Methods	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment				
	Community service learning project performance evaluation	30%					
	2. Service learning reflective report & ongoing reflection	25%					
	3. Group project and presentation		10%				
	4. 2 Short Quizzes	20%					
	5. SLLO E-learning module	5%					
	6. Class participation 10%						
Objectives	Understand the role of social, political, and economic factors in the development of community approaches to community health, with a focus on community intervention effectiveness;      Develop a working knowledge of different approaches to prevent						
	problems of psychosocial nature and promote community health and examines how these can be practically implemented, especially in						

relation to community constraints; 3. Understand the application of ecological, developmental, and systems theories and community psychology values to the study of interpersonal adaptation and critical community problems such as behavioral health of adolescents; and alleviation of intergenerational poverty through mentoring; and caregiving in the community context. Through the service learning module and seminars, students are expected to **Intended Learning** develop the following behavioral competence upon completion of this course Outcomes and its complimentary service learning module: (*Note 1*) a. Analyze how individual differences shape a person's experiences of and perspectives one's immediate community, the society, and the world as a whole b. Analyze a contemporary issue in one's community from a multidisciplinary perspective c. Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular social issues or community interventions d. Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights with reference to tenets in community psychology and their applications in community settings e. Apply the knowledge and skills acquired to deal with complex issues in the service setting f. Reflect on their role and responsibilities both as a professional in their chosen discipline and as a responsible citizen g. Demonstrate empathy for people in need and a strong sense of civic responsibility Selected community psychology concepts and methods will be examined in Subject Synopsis/ the relational context of individuals and their community: **Indicative Syllabus** (*Note* 2) 1. Community psychology and community science as an avenue towards system change 2. Definition of community, the sense of community, & human diversity 3. Community participation: Civic Engagement, empowerment, and factors towards community participation 4. Prevention and promotion of health or social care initiatives in a community context 5. Defining the service learner's role: Practising moral and ethical learning at community settings through applying principles in human diversity and empowerment / Code of professional practice at community settings 6. Engagement with community service organization staffs & recipients:

	Interpersonal skills and teamwork
Teaching/Learning	1. e-Learning Module in service learning
Methodology	Students are requested to attend the 10 hours e-learning module developed
(Note 3)	and delivered by the Service-Learning and Leadership Office (SLLO) at PolyU, introducing the basic concepts and practice of service learning.
	Students are required to complete the e-learning module within the first four weeks of the semester.
	2. Lecturers, seminars and tutorials
	Lectures, tutorials and/or workshops are designed to equip students with the discipline-specific knowledge, including health promotion and prevention,

Lectures, tutorials and/or workshops are designed to equip students with the discipline-specific knowledge, including health promotion and prevention, empowerment, and sense of community and social capital. Furthermore, formulation and implementation of community interventions targeting community health, individual's wellness, and civic society at a higher level will also be introduced.

Seminars are also provided to equip students with the project-specific skills such as engagement and communication skills with service recipients. When appropriate, guest speakers from the service agencies will be invited to deliver the message.

### 3. Community Service Learning project

The students can participate in either a health promotion or a child development program. Within the program, the students are expected to work closely with the collaborative agency to deliver a range of tasks and activities to the service recipients.

The students would be divided into teams of around five persons. Each team would participate in specific tasks or duties assigned by the service agency. In the meantime, the students would be encouraged to propose new project ideas and liaise with the organization to try new initiatives, according to the community and service needs. The students may need to work occasionally on weekend or out of school time, depending on the arrangement with the service agency.

The tentative service components and work tasks of each program is listed in the following:

Partner	South Kwai Chung Social Services (SKCSS) / Kwai Tsing Safe Community and Healthy City Association Ltd (KTSCHCA)
Projects	Students may participate in various health promotion and prevention projects under the SKCSS / KTSCHCA. QK blog adopted a tripartite model with strong community support, aiming at connecting education, healthcare and social welfare sectors and aligning them with the best

	interest of children and adolescents. Under
	the project, a range of small scale
	adolescent health promotion initiatives is
	undergoing, including physical activity
	promotion, smoking, drug and alcohol
	addiction and prevention, mental health
	promotion
	"Home Sweet Home" is a project aimed to
	provide support to the senior citizens,
	chronic sickness patients and their carers
	through the social support network under
	the South Kwai Chung Service Centre
	(SKCSS) and KTSCHCA. Under the
	project, a range of small scale program
	and/ or activities will be developed to so
	as to enhance the understanding of senior
	residents on mental health and illness.
	Thus, the project will be a good platform
	to learn about the idea and practice of
	health prevention, wellness promotion and
	community building and participation.
Student Engagement	Students will assist in assessment and
	promotion work for older adults or at-risk
	families / youth attending the service
	settings. Students may involve in, but not
	limited to, the following activities and
	tasks:
	<ul> <li>Home visits</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Community need assessment or</li> </ul>
	screening task (Direct contact with
	Clients)
	Health promotion campaign and
	activities (Direct contact with
	Clients)
	<ul> <li>Initiating ad hoc and exercise</li> </ul>
	activities (Direct contact with
	Clients)
	Develop general health promoting
	material for adolescents and parents
Target community	Older adults or youths in the Kwai Tsing
participants	District
participants	District

# 4. Reflective reports/ essay and group presentation

Students are required to write reflective journals (Pre-service, During-service, and Post-service) or a reflective report to demonstrate their ability to: a) develop generic skills, including, but not limited to, observation, communication, teamwork, social responsibility and awareness, b) link their service learning experience to the discipline knowledge and concept, c) develop critical thinking and perspective when analyzing social issues and problems, aligning with the community psychology orientation.

In the essay, students will be asked to demonstrate how the experience they have drawn from the service learning subject could be understood, explained, or predicted with the concepts and theories of community psychology taught in this subject in a more formal, academic presentation.

## Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

(*Note 4*)

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						
		a	b	С	d	e	f	g
1. Group Project presentation of CSL	10%			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>
2. CSL performance evaluation	30%					<b>\</b>	<b>\</b>	✓
3. Service learning reflective report & ongoing reflection	25%	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>		
4. Quizzes	20%	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>&gt;</b>		
5. E-learning module	5%	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>		
6. Class participation	10%	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Total	100%*							

<sup>\*</sup>The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned.

- Assessment of Group Project Presentation: Presentation of group's projects at service learning settings will assess students' ability to incorporate their experiential learning as well as core subject matter knowledge into an ecologically relevant application. Students will demonstrate their competence in blending those two core features in this course.
- 2. <u>Assessment of Individual's CSL performance</u>: With the aid of a structured report, coordinators and supervisors at the CSL settings will be requested to provide input for evaluation of students' involvement and competence during service delivery.
- 3. <u>Assessment of Individual's application and reflection of classroom & CSL learning Written Assignment</u>: Reflective journals and essays will be assessed in terms of how students blend theories learnt in class

	coverage of subject matter and practice in their community service learning experience. The SOLO taxonomy on capturing students' learning outcome, which categorized students' capacity from simply retaining knowledge to application of concepts in extended abstract form, will form the basis for grading criteria.  4. Quiz: Quizzes will be part of the coursework, aims at consolidating students' comprehension of the essential and content knowledge blocks in the respective units. The questions are based on the weekly required reading and the lecture.  5. E-Learning Module in service learning: Students are requested to attend a number sessions of e-learning module developed and delivered by the Service-Learning and Leadership Office (SLLO) of PolyU, introducing the basic concepts and practice of service learning.				
Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:	Hours			
Enort Expected	Lecture, seminar and project presentation	32			
	E-learning module	10			
	Service learning preparation, reading, self-reflection and writing task	50			
	Service project	40			
	Total Student Study Effort	132			
Medium of Instruction	English				
Medium of Assessment	English				
Reading List and References	Textbook  Jason, L. A., Glantsman, O., O'Brien, J. F., & Ramian, K. N. (2019).  Introduction to Community Psychology: Becoming an Agent of Change. (L. A. Jason, O. Glantsman, J. F. O'Brien, & K. N. Ramian, Eds.). Chicago, IL: Depaul University. Available at https://press.rebus.community/introductiontocommunitypsychology/  Recommended Readings  Orford, J (2008). Community Psychology: Challenges, Controversies and Emerging Consensus. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley. ISBN: 9780470773154. DOI:10.1002/9780470773154  Kloos, B., Hill, J., Thomas, E., Wandersman, A., Elias, M. J., & Dalton, J. H. (2012). Community psychology: Linking individuals and communities (3rd ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth / Cengage Learning.				

- Best, A., Stokols, D., Green, L. W., Leischow, S., Holmes, B., & Buchholz, K. (2003). An Integrative Framework for Community Partnering to Translate Theory Into Effective Health Promotion Strategy. *American Journal of Health Promotion*, 18(2), 168-176.
- Butterfoss, F. D. (2006). Process evaluation for community participation. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 27(1), 323-340.
- Butterfoss, F. D. (2007). *Coalitions and partnerships in community health*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Chan, C.C. (2010). Community Psychology in Chinese Societies. In Michael H. Bond (Ed.). *The Oxford Handbook of Chinese Psychology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp.441-456.
- Kreuter, M. W., Lezin, N. A., & Young, L. A. (2000). Evaluating Community-Based Collaborative Mechanisms: Implications for Practitioners. *Health Promotion Practice*, *1*(1), 49-63.
- Luke, D. A. (2005). Getting the Big Picture in Community Science: Methods That Capture Context. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, *35*(3-4), 185-200.
- Tebes, J. K. (2005). Community Science, Philosophy of Science, and the Practice of Research. [10.1007/s10464-005-3399-x]. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 35(3), 213-230.
- Wandersman, A. (2003). Community Science: Bridging the Gap between Science and Practice with Community-Centered Models. American Journal of Community Psychology, 31(3), 227-242.
- Prilleltensky, I. (1989). Psychology and the status quo. American Psychologist, 44, 795-802.
- Prilleltensky, I., & Nelson, G. (1997). Community psychology: Reclaiming social justice. In Fox, D. & Prilleltensky, I. (Eds.). Critical Psychology: An Introduction. Sage, London.
- Trickett, E. J. (1996). A future for community psychology: The contexts of diversity and the diversity of contexts. American Journal of Community Psychology, 24(2), 209-234.
- Minkler, Meredith. (2005). Community organizing and community building for health (2nd ed.). New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press.
- McMillan, D.W. & Chavis, D.M. (1986). Sense of community: A definition and theory. Journal of Community Psychology, 14, 6-23.
- Sarason, S.B. (1974). The psychological sense of community: Prospects for a community psychology. San Francisco: Jossey Bass.
- Rappaport, J. (1981). In praise of paradox: A social policy of empowerment

over prevention. Journal of Community Psychology 9, 1-25.

Wandersman, A., & Florin, P. (2003). Community Interventions and effective prevention. American Psychologist, 58, 441-448.

### Note 1: Intended Learning Outcomes

Intended learning outcomes should state what students should be able to do or attain upon completion of the subject. Subject outcomes are expected to contribute to the attainment of the overall programme outcomes.

#### *Note 2: Subject Synopsis/Indicative Syllabus*

The syllabus should adequately address the intended learning outcomes. At the same time over-crowding of the syllabus should be avoided.

## *Note 3: Teaching/Learning Methodology*

This section should include a brief description of the teaching and learning methods to be employed to facilitate learning, and a justification of how the methods are aligned with the intended learning outcomes of the subject.

#### Note 4: Assessment Method

This section should include the assessment method(s) to be used and its relative weighting, and indicate which of the subject intended learning outcomes that each method purports to assess. It should also provide a brief explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes.